

APPLICANT(S): SOREK, Noam et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/799,127
FILED: March 11, 2004
Page 4

REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims **1-16** are pending in the application.

Claims **1-16** have been rejected.

Claims **4, 8** and **9** have been amended in this submission. Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments to the claims add no new matter.

Claims **1-3** and **11-16** have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

New claims **17-19** have been added in order to further define what the Applicants consider to be the invention. Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 15 and 16 as being in improper form because of multiple dependent claims 15 and 16. Claims 15 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

APPLICANT(S): SOREK, Noam et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/799,127
FILED: March 11, 2004
Page 5

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Florent et al. (US Patent No. 6,574,300), and further in view of Nio et al. (US Patent No. 6,738,528).

The Florent patent teaches a method of noise reduction in a series of images, with a main interest of properly viewing a thread-like structure moving in the background (Florent, Col. 2, lines 45-50). Florent is focused on determining whether a certain pixel belongs to an "object" (typically a guide-wire inside a blood vessel imaged in fluoroscopy) or is part of the background. Florent's method is therefore binary in the sense that it is concerned with determining object/non-object pixels.

The Nio patent deals with identifying and smoothing of block noise – which is a problem associated with the actual processing and not related to the acquired image information. Nio is therefore not concerned with motion at all. The Nio reference discloses looking for edges where these blocks are present and smoothing the found edges.

There is no connection between the Florent and Nio patents, nor can it be asserted that combining the methods disclosed by the Florent and Nio patents would result in the method recited in claim 17.

The Florent reference does not disclose or render obvious detecting local motion and measuring its quantity as recited in claim 17. Thus, for example, Florent's method of treating object pixels and non-object pixels is different, whereas no such distinction is made with respect to the claimed method.

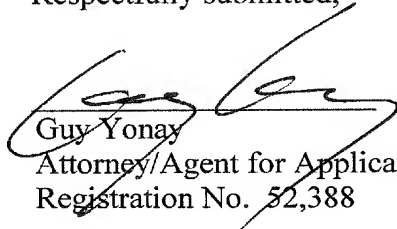
APPLICANT(S): SOREK, Noam et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/799,127
FILED: March 11, 2004
Page 6

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,


Guy Yonay
Attorney/Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 52,388

Dated: March 6, 2008

Pearl Cohen Zedek Latzer, LLP
1500 Broadway, 12th Floor
New York, New York 10036
Tel: (646) 878-0800
Fax: (646) 878-0801